

LEARNING WITH LUKE - ACTS 5:1-16 TIME TO LIVE OR DIE? p.1084 PEW BIBLE

Acts 5:1-16 - But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, and with his wife's knowledge he kept back for himself some of the proceeds and brought only a part of it and laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land? While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God." When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and breathed his last... his wife came in, not knowing what had happened... Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord?" Immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last... And great fear came upon the whole church and upon all who heard of these things. Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles...

The note of divine judgment is unmistakable, whether they were true or false believers. The Holy Spirit had blessed the Christian community with unity of fellowship and the power of miracles. This same power brought judgment to those whose actions denied it. Their death removed distrust and disunity. Satan is no match for the Holy Spirit. -JB Polhill

1- Time for GIVING - great grace

Acts 4:31-35 - generous response
 Acts 4:36-37, Acts 11:24 - Barnabas full of the Holy Spirit
 Acts 5:1-2 - Ananias & Sapphira (lied to the Holy Spirit)
 Acts 12:12, 17:5, 18:7, 20:20, 21:8, Rom 16:5,
 1Cor 16:19, Col 4:15, Phlm 2, 2Jn 10 - owned

The unity of the fellowship in the Spirit was abused through the spiritual deception of Ananias & Sapphira. -JB Polhill

2- Time for TRUTH - great testing

Acts 5:3-4 - lied to God, Holy Spirit
 Psalm 51:6, Num 23:19, Prov 30:5,
 Titus 1:2, Heb 6:18 - God is truth
 James 3:13-4:10 - passions
 1John 2:14-17 - world's desires
 1John 3:8-10, John 8:44, 2Cor 4:3-6,
 Acts 26:18, Mark 8:33, 1Peter 5:8 - Satan

Their sin was not in holding back some funds, but in the pretense, the hypocrisy. They lied to the church, to God, to the Holy Spirit (who is God, not an impersonal force, but a divine person whose patience may be provoked). -RC Sproul

3- Time for DEATH - great fear

Acts 5:5-6 - Ananias breathed his last
 Acts 5:7-10 - Sapphira immediately died
 Acts 12:23 - Herod breathed his last
 Ex 17:2,7, Num 20:12-13, Dt 6:16,
 Mt 4:7, Lk 4:12 - test the Spirit of the Lord
 Josh 6:18-19, 7:1,10-12,19-26 - Achan
 Titus 2:10-14 - pilfering (embezzlement)
 Acts 5:11 - great fear came upon all
 Isa 6:1-7, Heb 6:4-9, 10:31 (18-39) - dangerous holiness

Fear of losing the security that money promises held their hearts captive, so they did not trust God to give. With fear of losing face, they lacked fear of the Spirit of God, which was instilled in all who heard of their judgment. -DE Johnson

4- Time for LIFE - great signs

Acts 4:31,33, 5:12-16 - Holy Spirit
 Acts 5:12-13 - wonders
 Acts 5:14 - conversions
 Acts 5:15-16 - healings

We share Ananias' sin not when others think we are more spiritual than we are, but when we try to make others think we are more spiritual than we are. Spiritual deception is heinous to God, suppressing the life of the church. -RK Hughes

DAILY BIBLE READING ENGAGE~WORD~CHURCH~COMMUNITY~WORLD

10-30 Acts 5:1-16 - testing
 10-31 Prov 30:5-9 - profane
 11-01 Josh 6:15-7:26 - Achan
 11-02 James 3:13-4:10 - lusts
 11-03 1John 2:14-17 - desires
 11-04 John 9:38-47 - liar
 11-05 Heb 10:18-39 - holy

The Spirit of God works the Word of God so the people of God become like the Son of God

♦ How will I be transformed, by God's truth, in the Spirit's power, as I trust & obey?

ACTS of the Ascended Lord Jesus Christ
